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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/003,005

11/14/2001

Andrea Fumagalli

46847-00003USPT

3297

7590

12/03/2004

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EXAMINER

PHAN, HANH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2633

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/003,005

Applicant(s)

FUMAGALLI ET AL.

Examiner

Hanh Phan

Art Unit

2633

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/16/04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Xiong et al (US Patent No. 6,671,256).

Regarding claims 1, 8 and 13, referring to Figures 2, 3, 5 and 7, Xiong teaches a method for configuring lightpaths within an optical network (see Figs. 2 and 7), comprising:

storing a plurality of requests (i.e., data channel reservation request message DCR-Request 705, Figs. 2 and 7, col. 3, lines 55-67 and col. 4, lines 1-66) for a lightpath between a source node (i.e., electronic ingress edge router 105, Figs. 2 and 7) in the optical network and a destination node (i.e., electronic egress edge router 115, Figs. 2 and 7) in the optical network in a queue at the source node (col. 7, lines 21-67 and col. 8, lines 65);

receiving a token (i.e., DCR-acknowledgement message 710, Figs. 2 and 7) at the source node of the optical network indicating an available space within a wavelength;

selecting a request from the plurality of requests in the queue of the source node responsive to a best fit window protocol (col. 7, lines 52-67 and col. 8, lines 1-65); and establishing, responsive to selection of the request, the lightpath between the source node and the destination node (see Figs. 2 and 7).

Regarding claims 2, 6, 9 and 14, Xiong further teaches the step of: updating the token to indicate the wavelength supporting the lightpath is unavailable and forwarding the updated token to the destination node (col. 8, lines 14-20).

Regarding claims 3, 10 and 15, Xiong further teaches comparing the space available on the wavelength to the plurality of requests within the queue of the source node and selecting a request having a longest span from the queue that fits within the space available on the wavelength (col. 7, lines 52-67 and col. 8, lines 1-65).

Regarding claims 4, 5, 7, 11, 12 and 16, Xiong further teaches determining whether a soft deadline associated with any request in the queue has expired; removing any request having an expired soft deadline from the queue; and selecting a removed request having an oldest expired soft deadline that fits within the space available on the wavelength (col. 9, lines 30-37).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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Ramaswami et al (US Patent No. 5,781,537) discloses setting up, taking down and maintaining connections in a communication network.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh Phan whose telephone number is (571)272-3035.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Chan, can be reached on (571)272-3022. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-4700.



Hanh Phan

Primary Examiner

11/16/2004